



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING

VOL. XIX

SEPTEMBER, 1919

No. 12

EDITORIAL COMMENT

HONORS FOR MISS NOYES

At almost the same time, we receive word that Miss Noyes has been decorated with the Patriotic Service Medal of the American Social Science Association and Council of the National Institute of Social Science and that she has been appointed Director of the Department of Nursing of the American Red Cross, a position which she has been filling, as acting Director, at the request of Dr. Farrand, since the death of Miss Delano.

We believe all nurses will feel that this is as it should be. Miss Noyes was Miss Delano's own choice as a co-worker; her experience during the war period and through the half year which has followed the Armistice has made her thoroughly familiar with the work and the workers. She has carried it steadily forward during trying times, and has proved herself able to cope with its perplexities. She is a woman of long and varied experience in executive positions,—a graduate of Johns Hopkins, she has been superintendent of nurses at St. Luke's Hospital, New Bedford and at Bellevue, New York; she was for three years president of the National League of Nursing Education and is now in her second year as president of the American Nurses' Association. We are sure the nurses of the country will give Miss Noyes their confidence and support in her new position.

OTHER APPOINTMENTS OF INTEREST

It will be a pleasure to all who know Miss Fox, to hear that she has been made the head of the Public Health Division of the Red Cross Nursing Service. She has been acting in this capacity since Miss Gardner's departure for Italy and the permanent appointment shows that her work deserves recognition.

As announced last month in our official department by Miss Goodrich, whose signature was omitted through a typographical error, Miss Stimson succeeds her as Dean of the Army School of Nursing, Miss Goodrich returning to her post at Teachers College.



CLARA D. NOYES

Miss Stimson acts also as head of the Army Nurse Corps while Miss Dora Thompson takes a rest. The phrase "well-earned rest" was never more aptly applied than it might be here. The immense amount of detail work which has passed through the hands of Miss Thompson since the beginning of the war has seemed almost beyond comprehension and it is a wonder that she has borne the strain so long. Miss Stimson's experience overseas, where she has been advanced from one post of authority to another, gives her the needed working basis for her new tasks.

MISS DELANO'S GRAVE

Can anyone look at the picture of Miss Delano's lonely grave at Savenay, France, without a tightening of the throat? It is one thing to read about it, it is quite another to see it,—so lonely, so far from home. Yet the flowers upon it show that it is not unremembered, and the simple cross like those marking the soldier graves around it, emphasizes the fact that Miss Delano was one of a mighty army serving its country without desire for personal distinction, if only the war might be honorably won.

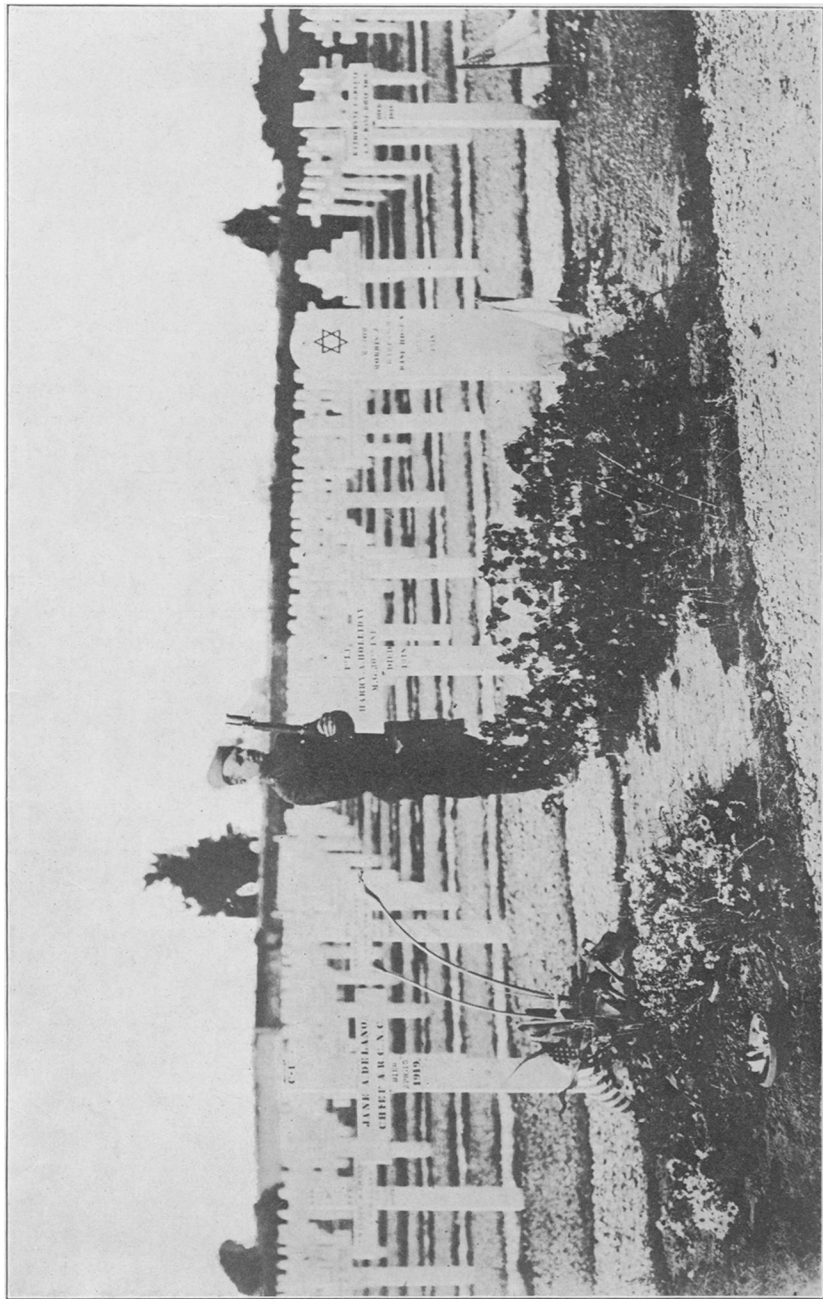
After all, it is life that counts, more than death, and the Red Cross Nursing Service is her everlasting memorial. Every Red Cross nurse who lives up to its ideals is helping to carry on Miss Delano's work. Every one of them who lives carelessly is trying to pull it down.

UNJUST COMPARISONS

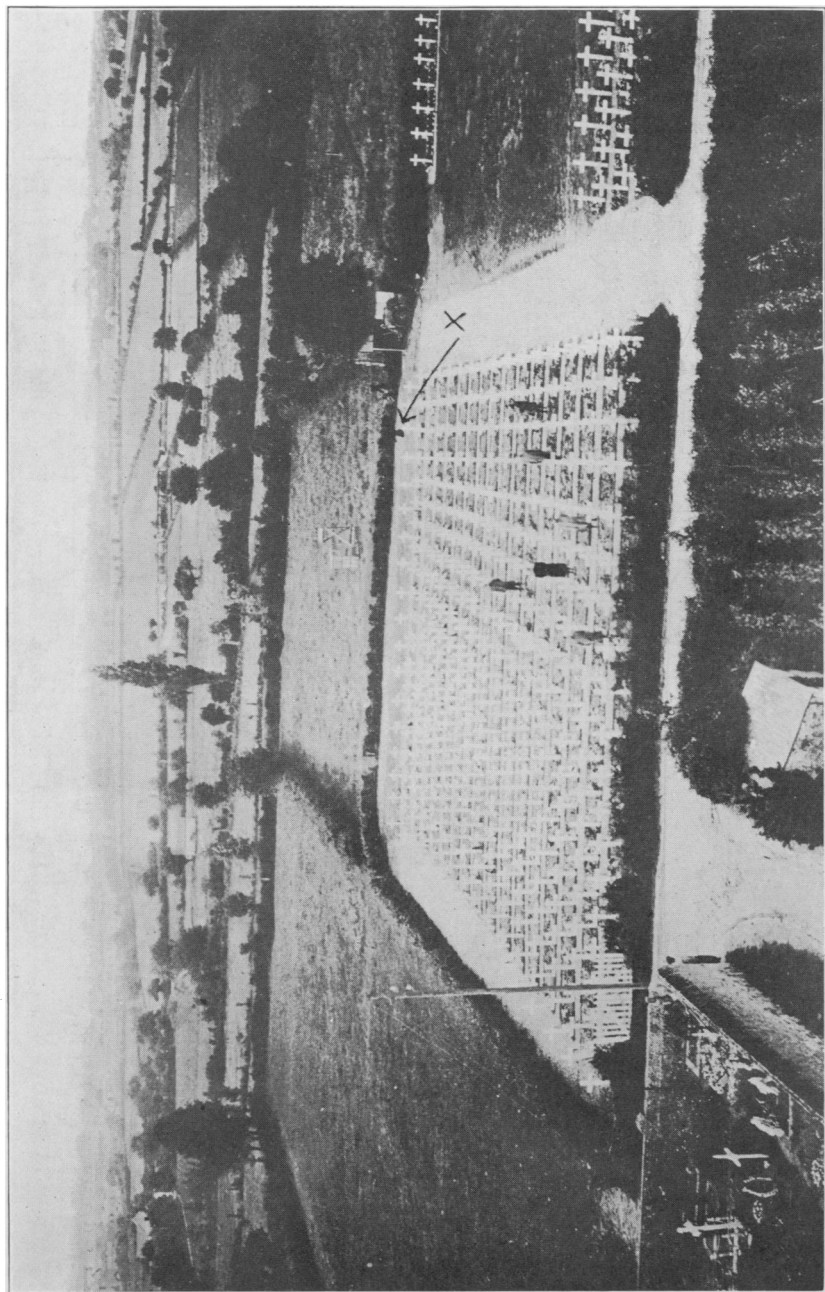
We publish in this JOURNAL an article by Dr. S. J. Crumbine of Topeka, Kansas, on The Socialization of Preventive Medicine through the Public Health Nurse which is a fine presentation of the subject, except in one respect. We take great exception to his comparison of the public health nurse with one whom he calls "the graduate nurse," evidently the private duty nurse, as we term her.

The truth is that almost all the public health nursing work of the country has been opened and is being carried on by women who were first private duty nurses, and no other line of work forms so good an education for public health nursing. Almost all the women in our profession who have done great things have been, early in their careers, private duty nurses.

Every time we hear or read a comparison of the public health nurse with the private duty nurse which exalts the one and lowers the other, we feel indignant at the misconception of the latter's scope of work. It would seem as though the people who are thinking and studying along the lines of public health, exclusively, had lost their sense of proportion or were ignorant of nursing history.



Soldiers will guard her grave until army regulations are lifted, and her body may be brought back to this country for interment at the National Cemetery at Arlington, Virginia.



The grave of Jane A. Delano, "among the American dead at Savenay * * * where the hills of Brittany rise in the far distance, and the landscape rolls gently with here and there trim gardens, walled-in fruit orchards, and a short, lazily-revolving windmill * * *"

As we know private nursing from actual experience and through observation over a long period of years, there is no class of nurse more valuable or more to be honored than the disinterested public spirited private duty nurse. Her duties are exactly those described by Dr. Crumbine as belonging to the public health nurse. No good nurse who goes to a case of typhoid feels that her duty is done in the mere nursing of the patient. She helps the physician to find the cause of the trouble and she never ceases her efforts to educate the family in methods of hygiene which will prevent similar outbreaks in the future. Her relation to the family of her patient is a vital, not an incidental one. How many a nurse, called for one member of the family, finds others needing care or instruction or enlightenment. Perhaps she is nursing the grandfather, but the school child who is kept indoors after school hours does not escape her observation. He looks pale and has not a childlike vitality. His cold school lunch, his indigestible meals, his lack of fresh air form a sufficient explanation, but it is only after making herself a true friend to the mother, with utmost tact and patience, that the nurse can show her where the child's life must be altered if he is to be kept from illness and grow up to strong manhood. Is not such work worth while? This is public health work, though it does not go by that name. Her influence extends throughout a whole neighborhood in many cases. In obstetrical work, she is doing child welfare work of utmost value, for she is educating a mother from the beginning of the child's life. Her work is done under more trying conditions, often, than is that of the public health nurse, for the latter visits the family, the private nurse must live in it. The private nurse is accused, often, of being mercenary, of working for hire. Do we not all work for hire? Is not every public health nurse on a salary? Could she continue her work if the salary were withdrawn?

Public health work is growing by leaps and bounds and we need the best of nurses for it, but we need the best for our executives and teachers in the hospitals and training schools, and we also need the best in the homes where sickness comes, where one patient is so desperately ill as to need the continual care of a nurse. Nothing but the best will do, anywhere, or the health of the public will suffer as a result. The danger is that by exalting one branch of the profession over another, young graduates may turn from the kind of work for which they are most fitted because they have been taught to despise it. Not all nurses will make good public health nurses, not all will make good executives or teachers. There is a type of nurse peculiarly fitted for the life and death battle with one patient at a time, and she is the best public servant who chooses the kind of work in which she can do most for her fellow men.

WANTED,—ARTICLES ON ANAESTHESIA, LABORATORY WORK, ETC.

A JOURNAL reader who fails to send her name with her request and who is, therefore, barred from the Letter Department, asks for articles from nurses who are doing office work for noted surgeons and medical men, also from nurses who are acting as anaesthetists. These articles would be very welcome for our pages, as are all which deal with practical subjects. There is particular need for information regarding places where courses in anaesthesia may be taken. We have constant inquiries on this point but have limited information to offer.

We like to have our readers tell us what they want to see in the JOURNAL and we like to have them write us about interesting work they are doing or in which they are helping, without waiting for a request. All original articles which are written exclusively for the JOURNAL are paid for at the time of publication. We cannot promise immediate publication, however, as our waiting list of articles is always a long one.

NEWS ITEMS

Occasionally a news item is sent to the JOURNAL with a request for a bill for inserting it. There is no charge for news items. We are very glad to have them and wish every state were better represented in our columns. We have to reserve the right to condense or omit portions of items, but we should like to have noted in our pages all nursing history of importance and of general interest.

We wish each alumnae and district association would appoint either a committee or an individual who should be responsible for telling of any meetings of special worth and of news regarding their members which is permanent in value, such as appointments to positions, births, marriages and deaths.

Every secretary of a state association should send an announcement of her state meeting two months before it is to be held, and should send an account of the meeting as soon as it is over, while the inspiration is fresh in her memory. Our pages close on the 15th of each month, so news items must be in our hands on that day to ensure their appearing in the next issue of the JOURNAL. Those received after the 15th have to be held for six weeks before publication.

There are some states that appear every month in our news items. There are others that are almost never represented. When a reader looks for items from her own city or state, let her say, "Can't we find someone to send them, so that I may know what is going on?" That is of more use than to think sadly, "The JOURNAL never prints anything from my home town." We cannot print what we do not receive.